



# News from Village Hall



Summer 2013

## Letter from the President

First and foremost, I would like to thank you, my neighbors, for your confidence in electing me to the office of Village President. I am honored and humbled by your support and well wishes as we begin this new journey together. Throughout the recent campaign, it was a pleasure to meet with so many of you who welcomed a shared goal of maintaining our heritage of open spaces, concern for our environment, our equestrian lifestyle and the need to protect our five-acre zoning.

While these and other cornerstones of our Village lifestyle require constant vigilance against external threats, we must also strive to improve the internal workings of our Village government. We must initiate and promote a more open, transparent, and interactive government.

The many meetings I've had with neighbors, both during the campaign and in my short time in office, are constant reminders of the greatest assets Barrington Hills has – our residents. Through what I plan to be a more inclusive government, I look forward to relying on our citizen's intelligence, diligence, generosity, and passion to guide our Village government for the next four years. At the same time, we must also recognize these same attributes of



surrounding communities and strive to instill a more collaborative environment as we work together to solve difficult issues before our Village and in our area. Then, and only then, can Barrington Hills return to a position of quiet leadership in our region.

### Appointments

Prior to my taking office, most positions on various Village boards, commissions and committees were either appointed or renewed in April. During the May meeting of the Board of Trustees, three vacancies on our Plan Commission were filled. Arnold Cernick, Dr. Pam Cools and Dan Wolfram agreed to take these roles on one of our most critical bodies of government. In addition, P. Denise Israel's position as chair of the Heritage and Environs Committee was renewed.

I am looking forward to working with our various boards, committees and commissions who so generously give their time to serve our neighbors. Having volunteers willing to commit their time, expertise, and energy helps keep our costs down and truly is the formula for the successful operation of our Village government.

An up-to-date list of all positions, filled or vacant, can be found on the Village FOIA website under "Village Directory." If you would like to be considered for a position, please contact me or other board members. Advanced notice of any appointments

*continued on page 2*

## QUICK TIP ABOUT YOUR ASH TREES

By Jim Voris

By now most of us know something about the Emerald Ash Borer, the invasive insect that is taking out ash trees all over the Midwest. What you may not know is that arborists are telling us that without attention, virtually all of our ash trees are doomed. The kill-off will be similar to that caused by the Dutch Elm Disease attack on our American elms in the 1950's and 60's. Where there once were millions of American elms in our cities and towns across the country, today there are few survivors. Another twist to the ash borer disaster is that there is some hope. Tree care experts have had excellent results in their efforts to save ash trees by using injections of insecticides directly into the cambium of specimen trees. If applied early enough in a tree's history with the infestation, it is possible to save an individual specimen. We obviously can't inject all of the trees in our area, but for the one, or several, ash trees on your property this may be a solution. Many tree care companies in the area offer the injection method for controlling for ash borers. Generally, a single injection lasts for two years. Costs begin at about \$100 and depend upon the size of the trees. Your tree care company will have additional strategies as to how to fight off the effects of ash borer infestations. This preventative care may be well worth consideration for the big beautiful ash trees on your property that you prize so highly. And after all, it can take an entire lifetime to grow replacements!



**Emerald Ash Borer D Shape Exit Hole**

**Letter from the President** continued from page 1

up for board consideration will now be listed in agendas of the Board of Trustees.

### Police Department

You may have read in the media about the recent appellate court decision regarding the handling of our police union's compensation and benefits. The appellate court held that the Village of Barrington Hills committed unfair labor practices when it rescinded a pay raise for patrol officers, finding that the decision to rescind was made in retaliation to the patrol officers' unionizing.

The unionization and the subsequent arbitrations and lawsuits stemming from it were initiated prior to my tenure as Village President and that of two newly elected trustees going back to 2010. Should we choose not to pursue further action with respect to the appellate court's finding, this decision will have a negative impact regarding our fiscal position as we are responsible to adjust wages back to 2010, plus interest, as well as pay for the union's attorney's fees. In addition, there are several arbitration awards pending which will also significantly impact our reserves should we not receive favorable determinations.

In a proactive effort to address these developments, the board has chosen to replace our legal counsel for the police union matters. Our new counsel is a local resident, Ted Clark, who specializes in collective bargaining and employment law matters and has taught at Northwestern University on the subject matter. I was pleased that our board concurred with this recommendation and we are setting a new path toward resolution.

### Torch Run

I was honored to kick off the Special Olympics/Illinois Police Torch Run on Sunday June 9, from Village Hall. Police Chief Michael Murphy, several of our officers, detectives, and their family members participated. Former Trustee Skip Gianopulos, current Trustee Colleen Konicek Hannigan, and her father, Board of Health member, Dr. Frank Konicek also participated.

It was a beautiful day and the run/bike/walk ended 17 miles from Village hall in McHenry. It is inspirational to see the participant's efforts benefitting some of the most wonderful people you will ever get to meet. Thanks to our men and women officers for supporting such a worthy cause.

### Service Award

Nancy Masterson recently stepped down after 26 years of

faithful dedicated service to our community. She has donated untold hours of her personal time on several Village boards, most recently the Zoning Board of Appeals. Since 1986 Nancy has provided thoughtful guidance and recommendations on countless developmental issues in our Village.

I was honored to present a commendation along with Judy Freeman, ZBA Chair, thanking her on behalf of the Village and all residents. My thanks to Nancy for providing excellent examples to our community of what active, passionate, dedicated service can accomplish. I would also like to thank her husband Joe and her family for their support of Nancy's efforts on all our behalf.



**I to r: ZBA Chair, Judith Freeman; Nancy Masterson; Village President, Martin McLaughlin.**

### SUMMARY

As part my platform of open and honest government, it is my intention to keep you, my neighbors, advised on all pertinent issues and matters before our board, especially those that impact our financial resources and our comprehensive plan. Toward that end, we will be scheduling a town hall meeting prior to one of upcoming board meetings in the fall as was discussed by several candidates along with myself during the campaign.

As stewards for our community it is our obligation to leave the Village in better shape than we found it. In my first couple of weeks in office, we have evaluated the potential impact of several pressing issues regarding our western border and East Dundee's desire to develop Insurance Auto Auction, Sears, and our Police collective bargaining arbitration. We also have been closely monitoring the possible changes contemplated at Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District.

Each of these and other issues, such as the long-running Sears legal defense, possesses unique challenges to our environment, financial strength, and safety. Some of these issues you may be aware of and some you may not, but I pledge to you to communicate in as much detail as possible all aspects of each. I look forward to facing these challenges on your behalf and welcome the support and participation of all residents united behind common objectives.

Martin McLaughlin, *President*  
mmclaughlin@barringtonhills-il.gov



**Participants at Torch Run**



# One Village, Two Watersheds



## The Flint Creek Watershed

**By Kurt O. Thomsen,  
Flint Creek Watershed Partnership Coordinator**

Prior to urbanization, the Flint Creek watershed was perfectly designed to accept any amount of rainfall and deliver the runoff to the Fox River. Discharge to the Creek would gently peak after a rainfall, and over a short period the runoff would slowly begin to wander through the savannas and grasslands. About 15% would infiltrate into the ground recharging the groundwater, and the rest would ease itself into the river. All in all a pretty orderly process, but the land-use changed. With less savannas and grasslands available the runoff had no place to linger. Recharge areas were impacted by impervious surfaces and wetlands were reduced for the sake of shopping malls. There was nothing for rainfall to do but hurry up and leave the watershed as fast as possible resulting in less groundwater recharge. However, a speedy natural exit wasn't entirely possible because the stream channels and the remaining wetlands did not have the capacity to contain the increased runoff. This resulted in flooding which is further exacerbated by dams built along the creek.

Even with all this gloom and doom the Flint Creek watershed is in much better condition than most urban watersheds. This can be attributed to the parcel-based plan that encourages land preservation by private landowners in cooperation with local governments and organizations. The Flint Creek watershed has 35% open space and coupled with partially open parcels this figure becomes 73%. There are four Forest preserves, two village preserves and astonishingly 78% of the pre-settlement wetlands remain in this area.

The goals of the Flint Creek Watershed Plan can be boiled down to two objectives, improve the water quality and reduce flooding. Great progress has been made over the last eight years towards reaching these objectives, but a lot more work needs to be done.

Currently, there is no mechanism in place to measure our progress. We have identified the problems but we have not established baseline conditions against which we can measure our progress. Therefore, one of our immediate objectives will be to establish a monitoring system that will collect water quality, water level and stream discharge data. These data will be used to measure the effectiveness of the green infrastructure techniques implemented to improve the water quality and reduce flooding.

## The Spring Creek Watershed

**By Sharon Osterby, Spring Creek Watershed  
Partnership Coordinator**

The Spring Creek Watershed Partnership (SCWP) is dedicated to the preservation, protection and improvement of the Spring Creek Watershed (SCW). The mission of the SCWP is to increase communication and coordination among stakeholders and improve water quality, maintain water supply, and preserve ecosystems and restore wetlands and prairies and other natural features. Land use changes, nutrients and fertilizers, sediment from erosion, invasive species, and poor land management practices threaten the integrity of the SCW.

### Sharon's Top Tips to Protect YOUR Watershed.

- Do not mow or fertilize within 10 feet of a lake
- Get rid of invasive plants around your yard and shoreline
- Install buffers of deep rooted native plants to help trap pollutants
- Minimize your use of salt and phosphorus in your home and yard by purchasing phosphate free laundry/dish soap, fertilizer, etc.
- Clean up pet waste before it rains
- Keep leaves and grass clippings away from street gutters and drainage areas
- Direct roof downspouts away from driveways and foundations and towards lawn or rain gardens where water can soak into the soil
- Leave grass clipping on lawn or use mulching mower
- Do not burn yard waste along lakeshores or dump yard waste into streams or lakes.

Whether your property is large or small, your contributions can make a difference in protecting and improving water quality in our watersheds. The SCWP and FCWP will continue to foster stewardship and promote the recommendations set forth in the Watershed - Based Plan.

## TRUSTEE UPDATE—

### Patty Meroni - Trustee

**Roads and Bridges**  
[pmeroni@barringtonhills-il.gov](mailto:pmeroni@barringtonhills-il.gov)

After a late and wet winter and spring, weight limits on Village roads stayed in place longer than usual - but our April 18 rain event was anything but usual. See some of the pictures I took around the Village that day.

Our 2013 Drainage Program is underway with Spring Creek Road and Creekside Lane receiving some new replacement culverts.

The resurfacing of Spring Creek Road in its entirety after 17 years comprises the majority of this year's road program, with Three Lakes Road also being resurfaced after being deferred.

Patching will be ongoing on several other roads, so pardon the delays you may encounter.

Another point with Roads and Bridges is ROAD SIDE TRASH. As you may know, our Heritage and Environs Committee organizes a roadside trash cleanup twice a year, in Spring and Fall. The location changes depending on the amount of trash. This Spring W. County Line Road was the winner with more trash than anyone could remember before, necessitating two days of cleanup by resident volunteers.

Having watched our garbage and recycle truck come through our road and leave a trail of trash before turning onto W. County Line Road, I knew most of the trash was coming from the companies that we as residents pay to collect it, not redistribute along our roads. I have spoken with the supervisors at the various companies which collect waste in the Village and advised them that the Village will start enforcing the state statutes regarding littering, covered (or uncovered) loads on roll off containers, and issue tickets when appropriate.

To this end, the residents, both those who turn out every year to help with clean up, and those who are just tired of seeing our Village roads strewn with trash, should advise the following if you see a licensed waste hauler (I.E. Groot, Waste Management, Veolia, etc.) driving in the Village with open containers, uncovered roll off loads and trailing trash, with date, time, location and identification of the truck if possible. I will contact the vendor supervisors to officially complain.

Village Hall 847-551-3000 or [village@barringtonhills-il.gov](mailto:village@barringtonhills-il.gov)

**Let's all help keep our Village clean!**

### Spring floods



Pictures from around the village after the April 18 severe rain event, as well as the June 25 rain. Many areas of the village were flooded, some much worse than others, but things seem to have dried up and hopefully we will have a benign summer and fall weather wise.

# TRUSTEE UPDATE—

## Karen S. Selman - Trustee

## Finance

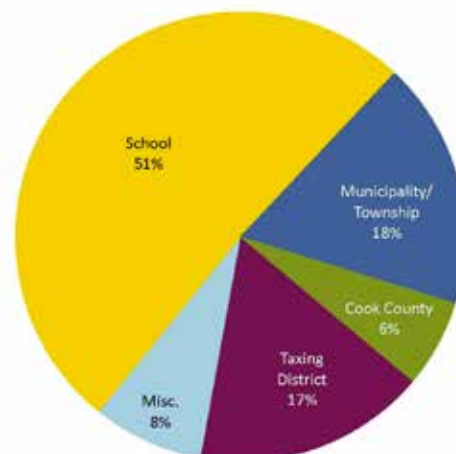
[kselman@barringtonhills-il.gov](mailto:kselman@barringtonhills-il.gov)

The Finance Committee met in April & July to review the first and second quarters of the 2013 Budget. The Committee reviewed all budget projection variances of revenue and expenses. The FY12 Audit draft was presented by representatives of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause. The Committee voted to present the draft for approval to the Trustee Board, which they approved at their June, 2013 meeting. The 2012 Audit is available for public review on the treasurer portion of the Village Website. The Motor Fuel Tax Audit for 2012 was presented to the Committee by Mr. Dan Strahan, Village Engineer. Motor Fuel Taxes help maintain the thirty-nine miles of Village Roads. The Committee recommended the Audit be sent to the Trustee Board which they approved at their May, 2013 meeting. The Trustee Board approved the MFT Audit at the May meeting.

In preparation of 2013 property taxes, due in 2014, residents located in Cook County should have received notice from the County Assessor's office of property reassessments. Reassessments occur every three years in Cook County. The county will continue to include the taxing districts' debt and financial data pursuant to Section 2-243 of the Cook County Code of Ordinances (commonly referred to as Debt Disclosure Ordinance) as shown on your property tax bills. Cook County's second installment of Property Tax payments were due to the County by August 1, 2013. Kane County's will be due on September 4, 2013, Lake County's due date is September 6, 2013 and McHenry County is due on September 5, 2013.

Please note that the amount on your tax bill is a total levied by all taxing units of which the Village of Barrington Hills is only one of, see chart.

### Property Tax Bill



The above chart shows a recent allocation of property tax in the Cook County portion of the Village of Barrington Hills. Other counties have a similar allocation.

## Colleen Konicek Hannigan - Trustee

## Planning and Personnel

[ckonicek@barringtonhills-il.gov](mailto:ckonicek@barringtonhills-il.gov)

As a newly elected Trustee, I would like to thank the residents of the Village of Barrington Hills for their trust in allowing me the opportunity to serve theirs and the Village's interests. I am looking forward to the challenges and rewards of the office!

After being sworn in on May 6th, I was appointed to the Planning and Personnel committees. President McLaughlin was able to appoint three new members to the Plan Commission at the May 23rd Board Meeting, Dan Wolfgram, Pam Cools, and Arnold Cernick. I appreciate their desire and willingness to serve. I have had the opportunity to meet with some of the current members of the Plan Commission and look forward to meeting the remaining and appreciate their continued participation. I anticipate great things from everyone serving on the Plan Commission on behalf of Barrington Hills in maintaining the Village's vision of open spaces with a strong and effective Comprehensive Plan.

In my capacity as the Personnel chairperson, I had the opportunity to meet with Chief Murphy and tour the facility, as well as get to know some of the fine men and women who serve in our police department. In true trial by fire fashion, Chief Murphy talked me into spending some time the morning of Sunday, June 9th, running alongside some of the men and women charged with keeping our Village safe in the Torch Run benefiting Special Olympics. I am inspired by their selfless act of giving back, especially on their well-deserved day off! I trust that as I grow into these positions, there will be much more to report in future newsletters. Until then, I pledge to serve with honesty and to do my best to serve equally all the residents of this beautiful Village.

## Michael Harrington - Trustee

## Heritage and Environs

[mharrington@barringtonhills-il.gov](mailto:mharrington@barringtonhills-il.gov)

### Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedicated In Barrington Hills

On Memorial Day, a Blue Star Memorial Marker, honoring service men and women, was dedicated at the northeast corner of Dundee and Old Sutton Roads. The National Council of Garden Clubs started the Blue Star Highway program in 1944 to honor veterans of World War II. The Blue Star Highway system now covers thousands of miles across the United States in honor of all the men and women who serve our country in the Armed Forces.

Barrington Hills is honored to have a Blue Star Marker. The location of the marker is historically significant because this location, formerly part of what was



Photo by Living60010

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## TRUSTEE UPDATE—

**Michael Harrington - Trustee** continued from page 5

known as Miller's Grove, is where 91 community members enlisted for the Civil War. A plaque at the site commemorates these enlistments and the plaque was dedicated 80 years ago to the day. The program for the Blue Star dedication followed the original program for the dedication of the plaque in 1933, which was found on microfilm in the Barrington Area Libraries archive.

The Heritage and Environs Committee helped organize the event in partnership with the Council of Barrington Garden Clubs and the Township of Barrington. We thank the New Friends Korean Wesleyan Church for sharing their facility, which allowed attendees to escape the rain. Despite the rain, all attendees were proud to honor the brave individuals who protect our freedom as members of the armed services, and especially those who gave their lives.



### New Board Member Biographies

#### **President Martin J. McLaughlin**

Martin J. McLaughlin brings to the Village a wealth of financial management experience. He currently works as Managing Director of an independent investment management firm, and previously served as President of KAMCO from 1997 until the firm merged with an independent investment advisory firm based in Washington DC in 2005.

Martin has a B.S. in Business Administration from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois. He is a trustee for The Einstein Academy in Elgin Illinois, where he has served since 2004.

He was raised in St. Charles where his family owned horses, and attended Elgin Academy where he met his wife Kathleen. Kathleen Killian McLaughlin is a longtime resident of Barrington Hills. She is a supporter of Barrington Children's Charity, Teens for Teens as well as Barrington Junior Women's Club.

Martin and Kathleen are raising 5 daughters ranging in age from 6 to 19 years old. The daughters are equestrians, and active in lacrosse, softball, theater and volunteer at Walk On Farms.

#### **Trustee Colleen Konicek Hannigan**

At the age of 4, Colleen and her family moved to Barrington Hills. After marriage, she returned to Barrington Hills with her husband, Michael. Since that time, she has been active in the Barrington area, including being one of the organizing founders of the Barrington Honor Ride and Run, a bike ride benefiting wounded veterans. She is a litigation partner at the law firm of Fletcher & Sippel, specializing in transportation-related and toxic tort litigation. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from DePauw University where she was a 4-year varsity starter on DePauw's field hockey team, named to the all-American team on three occasions, and in 2001 was inducted into the DePauw University Athletic Hall of Fame. She went on to earn her Juris Doctorate from John Marshall Law School.

#### **Trustee Michael E. Harrington**

Mike Harrington and his family have lived in Barrington Hills for 15 years. Harrington is President of Oak Ridge Investments, they manage approximately \$3 billion for endowments, foundations, retirement plans, municipalities and high net worth individuals. A native of Findlay, Ohio, Harrington graduated from Miami University with a B.S. in Business Administration and from Ohio State University with an M.B.A. in Finance. He is a member of the Investment Management Consultants Association and is a Certified Investment Management Analyst. He serves as a Trustee at the University of Findlay and is a member of the Advisory Board for the school's College of Business.

## Grid Signs for 9-1-1

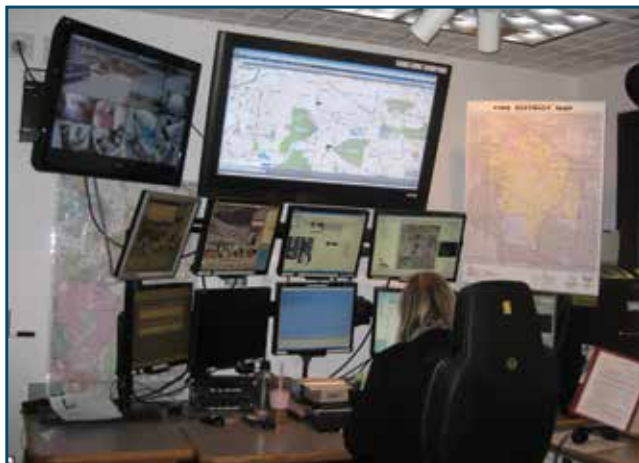
Barrington Hills is unique with five (5) different fire and paramedic jurisdictions providing emergency response services for residents. The record for dispatch begins with the postal address of your home, and in the case of landlines, that information is displayed with the grid sign address used by the First Responders to determine which ambulance or fire service will be dispatched to your residence. If that record is not available the caller will be asked for the grid sign number.

Let's assume you are at neighbor's party. You see someone in distress and you use your cell phone to call 9-1-1. The Police Dispatcher sees your geographic address not a residential

address on their display. If you know the home and/or grid address of the residence and can provide it to the dispatcher, valuable time can be saved in getting assistance.

We again ask that all residents make sure that their Fire and Police Department grid signs are visible and kept free of grass and debris. These signs are how responding emergency services including the police and fire department can best locate you in case of an emergency. If your sign is rusted or missing, please contact Tracy Morey via email at [TMorey@vbhpd.net](mailto:TMorey@vbhpd.net) or call the non emergency number at 847-551-3006.

## VoIP Users Need To Test 9-1-1



The Village of Barrington Hills Police Department provides emergency answering services for residents and anyone traveling through the area calling 9-1-1. To get the correct First Responders to the person(s) in need of assistance, they use customer records provided by the communications carriers such as AT&T, Comcast, Sprint, Verizon and others.

Recently, some Barrington Hills Residents dialing 9-1-1 using VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) had their emergency calls misrouted to Lake Zurich. Misrouted calls are transferred back to the village for dispatch, but valuable time can be lost during this process. The village can correct these records. In an effort to assure prompt assistance, the Police Department is requesting residents who use VoIP service to schedule a test emergency call.

We encourage all residents with VoIP service to contact JoAnne Gumprecht at the Barrington Hills Police Department at [JGumprecht@vbhpd.net](mailto:JGumprecht@vbhpd.net). Please send an email including your name,

address, phone number, service provider and the best time to contact you. A time will be scheduled to test your 9-1-1 service to ensure it is routed correctly. Your safety is important to us! If you do not use email, please call the Police non emergency number (847) 551-3006 or fax the Police Department (847) 551-3055.

## Citizens for Conservation presents: The Metamorphosis of a Butterfly

**Citizens for Conservation presents a Leave No Child Inside class, The Metamorphosis of a Butterfly.**

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at CFC's Flint Creek Savanna. Students will become Citizen Scientists while learning about the importance and life cycle of butterflies. Each nature explorer will make a butterfly habitat, receive a monarch caterpillar to raise at home, and receive a milkweed plant to attract butterflies to his or her yard.

Saturday, August 24, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at CFC Headquarters, 459 W. Hwy 22, Lake Barrington. Look for the white farmhouse with a silo across from Good Shepherd Hospital.

This class is open to children ages 5 and older. Caregivers are required to attend. CFC members are free, Non-members pay \$5.00 for the first child and \$1.00 for each additional child. Please make checks payable to Citizens for Conservation.

Class size is limited and completed registration forms are due by August 17. Registration forms are found at [citizensforconservation.org/class-registration-form](http://citizensforconservation.org/class-registration-form). Please call CFC at 847-382-SAVE (7283) or email [youth-ed@citizensforconservation.org](mailto:youth-ed@citizensforconservation.org) for additional information.



Photo by Diane Bodkin



Village of Barrington Hills  
112 Algonquin Road  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

[barringtonhills-il.gov](http://barringtonhills-il.gov)

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## Directory

### Village of

#### Barrington Hills

112 Algonquin Road  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

[barringtonhills-il.gov](http://barringtonhills-il.gov)

#### Phone

847-551-3000

#### Village Hall Hours

Monday-Friday  
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

#### Director of

#### Administration

Robert Kosin, AICP

### Board of Trustees

Martin J. McLaughlin  
*President*

Fritz Gohl  
*Pro-Tem*

Patty Meroni  
*Trustee*

Karen S. Selman  
*Trustee*

Joseph S. Messer  
*Trustee*

Colleen Konicek Hannigan  
*Trustee*

Michael Harrington  
*Trustee*

## CALENDAR

AUG  
17

10am - Noon

**Mug Club:** Join Trustee Patty Meroni at Village Hall for coffee and conversation

AUG  
24

1pm - 3pm

**Butterfly Metamorphosis:** The lifecycle of a butterfly at CFC Headquarters, 459 W Hwy 22

OCT  
13

TBD

**the HILLS are ALIVE:** Barrington Hills Community Festival, look to [barringtonhills-il.gov](http://barringtonhills-il.gov) for more info

OCT  
26

Meet at  
8:30am

**Roadside Cleanup:** Heritage and Environs fall cleanup event. Volunteers Needed!

OCT  
21-24

9am - 5pm

**Private Well Water Testing:** Pickup testing kits at Village Hall for BACOG's fall event on Oct. 28